



118.1

# A PROCLAMATION,

Allowing a further Dyet to the Commons for taking the *Test*, and Indemnifying the Heretors Guilty of Harboursing, or Resetting of Rebels who have taken the *Test* at the late Justice-Aires, as to their Lives.

CHARLES R.

**W** By the grace of GOD, King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith; To Our Lyon King at Arms, and his Brethren Heralds, Bacers, Purlevants or Messengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and severally, specially constitute Greeting: So much as it being represented to Us, that some of Our Commons have, through ignorance, or want of frequent Meetings of these appointed by Our late Proclamation for Administrating the *Test*, lost the benefit of Our Indemnity, and considering that the time formerly allowed unto them was very short, We have thought fit, as a further evidence of Our Clemency, with advice of Our Privy Council, to continue the Dyet for their taking the *Test*, to the first of March next ensuing, for Indemnifying them for ever, as to their Resetting, and Intercommuning with such as were engaged in the Rebellion, in the year 1679. Excepting such as have Resettled, or Intercommuned with the Assassines of the late Lord Arch-bishop of St. Andrews, or Seditious Field-preachers: As also, such as have Resettled, or Intercommuned with any who is Guilty of, or any manner of way accessory to the late horrid Conspiracy against Our Royal Person and Government: Requiring hereby all Sheriffs, Stewards, Magistrates and others in Office strictly to search for, (after the said day,) and to punish with all rigor that Our Law will allow, all such as will refuse this last Offer of Our Mercy: But if any are, or shall be apprehended before their making application for obtaining this Our Favour, We Declare that they shall have no benefit thereof. And further, We declare, that the Heretors who have already taken the *Test* in the last Justice-Aires, thereby are secured as to their Lives, if they have been only Guilty of Resetting, and Intercommuning; but that nevertheless, they shall after the first day of November next be liable to be Condemned before Our Privy Council, and to such Arbitrary Punishments as they shall think fit to appoint, according to the Specialties of their respective Cases and Guilt: Declaring hereby, that their Sentences being fulfilled by them, shall Indemnifie them as effectually, as if they had a special Pardon and Remission from Us, under Our great Seal: and We do allow those intrusted by Our Privy Council, to take the Declarations of Witnesses against those who have been suspected of being in the late Rebellion, or Guilty of Resetting and Intercommuning, providing always that there be no Processes intended upon these; or any other Declarations, or Depositions, until Our Advocate shall find sufficient matter of Dittay therein. And to the effect Our Pleasure may be known in the Premises, Our Will is, and We Charge you strictly and Command, that incontinent, these Our Letters seen, ye pass to the Mercat Cross of Edinburgh, and other places needful, and thereat, in Our Name and Authority, by open Proclamation, make publication of the Premises: The which to do, We commit to you, conjunctly and severally, Our full Power, by these Our Letters, delivering them by you duly execute, and indorsed again to the Bearer.

Given under Our Signet at *Mal-rud-houfe*, the twenty day of *September*, One thousand six hundred eighty and three. And of Our Reign, the thirtieth and fifth Year.

Per actum Dominorum Secreti Concilij.

WILL. PATERSON. *Cl. Sti. Concilij*

GOD save the KING.